

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2572

To direct the Administrator of NASA to design and present an award to
the Apollo astronauts.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 20, 1999

Mr. SOUDER (for himself and Mr. WELDON of Florida) introduced the
following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Science

A BILL

To direct the Administrator of NASA to design and present
an award to the Apollo astronauts.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Apollo Exploration
5 Award Act of 1999”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress makes the following findings:

8 (1) On July 20, 1969, Neil A. Armstrong and
9 Edwin E. “Buzz” Aldrin Jr., became the first hu-
10 mans to set foot on another celestial body, during

1 the Apollo 11 mission, accompanied in lunar orbit by
2 Michael Collins.

3 (2) Between 1969 and 1972, ten other Ameri-
4 cans courageously completed the first human explo-
5 ration of the lunar surface, accompanied by five
6 command module pilots:

7 (A) Apollo 12—Charles J. “Pete” Conrad
8 Jr., Alan L. Bean, and Richard F. Gordon Jr.

9 (B) Apollo 14—Alan B. Shepard Jr.,
10 Edgar D. Mitchell, and Stuart A. Roosa.

11 (C) Apollo 15—David R. Scott, James B.
12 Irwin, and Alfred M. Worden.

13 (D) Apollo 16—John W. Young, Charles
14 M. Duke Jr., and Thomas K. Mattingly II.

15 (E) Apollo 17—Eugene A. Cernan, Ronald
16 E. Evans, and Harrison H. Schmitt.

17 (3) In April 1970, James A. Lovell Jr., John
18 L. Swigert Jr., and Fred W. Haise Jr., valiantly
19 made a safe return from the Moon on the Apollo 13
20 mission, after their command module was disabled
21 by an explosion.

22 (4) The enormous successes of the Apollo lunar
23 landing missions were only possible due to the pio-
24 neering work of the previous Apollo missions, which
25 performed critical testing of the spacecraft and

1 methods, and conducted the first human travel to
2 the Moon:

3 (A) Apollo 7—Walter M. Schirra Jr.,
4 Donn F. Eisele, and R. Walter Cunningham.

5 (B) Apollo 8—Frank Borman, James A.
6 Lovell Jr., and William A. Anders.

7 (C) Apollo 9—James A. McDivitt, David
8 R. Scott, and Russell L. Schweickart.

9 (D) Apollo 10—Thomas P. Stafford, John
10 W. Young, and Eugene A. Cernan.

11 (5) In January 1967, astronauts Virgil I.
12 Grissom, Edward H. White, and Roger B. Chaffee
13 lost their lives in a tragic fire in the command mod-
14 ule while testing the spacecraft which would have
15 carried them on the first manned Apollo mission.

16 (6) Since the time of the Apollo program, the
17 program's astronauts have promoted space explo-
18 ration and human endeavor by sharing their experi-
19 ences with the American people and the world, stim-
20 ulating the imagination and the belief that any goal
21 can be achieved.

22 (7) Sadly, astronauts John L. Swigert Jr.,
23 Donn F. Eisele, Ronald E. Evans, James B. Irwin,
24 Stuart A. Roosa, Alan B. Shepard Jr., and Charles

1 J. “Pete” Conrad Jr., have died since completing
2 their missions.

3 **SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

4 It is the sense of Congress that the American people
5 should provide a fitting and tangible tribute to each of
6 the astronauts of the Apollo program, to recognize and
7 commemorate their bravery, substantial scientific and
8 technical accomplishments, and unique contributions to
9 American and world history.

10 **SEC. 4. APOLLO EXPLORATION AWARD.**

11 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the Na-
12 tional Aeronautics and Space Administration (hereinafter
13 in this Act referred to as the “Administrator”) shall de-
14 sign and present an appropriate award, to be named the
15 “Apollo Exploration Award”, commemorating the accom-
16 plishments of the astronauts who flew in the Apollo pro-
17 gram.

18 (b) DESIGN.—The Administrator shall ensure that
19 the Apollo Exploration Award shall have the following
20 characteristics:

21 (1) A lunar rock sample shall be the central
22 feature of the award.

23 (2) The design of the award shall permit free
24 access to and removal of the lunar sample by the
25 award recipient.

1 (c) PRESENTATION.—The Administrator shall
2 present one award created under this Act to each of the
3 following Apollo astronauts, or if such person is deceased,
4 to his closest living family member or heir (as determined
5 by the Administrator):

6 (1) Buzz Aldrin (formerly known as Edwin E.
7 Aldrin Jr.) of Apollo 11.

8 (2) William A. Anders of Apollo 8.

9 (3) Neil A. Armstrong of Apollo 11.

10 (4) Alan L. Bean of Apollo 12.

11 (5) Frank Borman of Apollo 8.

12 (6) Eugene A. Cernan of Apollo 10 and Apollo
13 17.

14 (7) Roger B. Chafee of Apollo 1.

15 (8) Michael Collins of Apollo 11.

16 (9) Charles J. “Pete” Conrad Jr. of Apollo 12.

17 (10) R. Walter Cunningham of Apollo 7.

18 (11) Charles M. Duke Jr. of Apollo 16.

19 (12) Donn F. Eisele of Apollo 7.

20 (13) Ronald E. Evans of Apollo 17.

21 (14) Richard F. Gordon Jr. of Apollo 12.

22 (15) Virgil I. Grissom of Apollo 1.

23 (16) Fred W. Haise Jr. of Apollo 13.

24 (17) James B. Irwin of Apollo 15.

- 1 (18) James A. Lovell Jr. of Apollo 8 and Apollo
- 2 13.
- 3 (19) Thomas K. Mattingly II of Apollo 16.
- 4 (20) James A. McDivitt of Apollo 9.
- 5 (21) Edgar D. Mitchell of Apollo 14.
- 6 (22) Stuart A. Roosa of Apollo 14.
- 7 (23) Walter M. Schirra Jr. of Apollo 7.
- 8 (24) Harrison H. Schmitt of Apollo 17.
- 9 (25) Russell L. Schweickart of Apollo 9.
- 10 (26) David R. Scott of Apollo 9 and Apollo 15.
- 11 (27) Alan B. Shepard Jr. of Apollo 14.
- 12 (28) Thomas P. Stafford of Apollo 10.
- 13 (29) John L. Swigert Jr. of Apollo 13.
- 14 (30) Edward H. White of Apollo 1.
- 15 (31) Alfred M. Worden of Apollo 15.
- 16 (32) John W. Young of Apollo 10 and Apollo
- 17 16.

18 **SEC. 5. PROHIBITION ON PROFIT.**

19 No person may use an award presented under this
20 Act for monetary gain or profit.

21 **SEC. 6. TRANSFER OF AWARD.**

22 (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provi-
23 sion of law, ownership interest in an award presented
24 under this Act may not be—

1 (1) sold, traded, bartered, or exchanged for
2 anything of value; or

3 (2) otherwise transferred, other than to a fam-
4 ily member of the original recipient of the award or
5 by inheritance.

6 (b) EXCEPTION FOR PUBLIC DISPLAY.—The prohibi-
7 tion in subsection (a) does not apply to a transfer to a
8 museum or nonprofit organization for the purpose of pub-
9 lic display.

10 (c) REVERSION.—Ownership of an award presented
11 under this Act reverts to the Administrator if—

12 (1) no person inherits the award after the death
13 of its owner; or

14 (2) the award is not being displayed publicly
15 under subsection (b).

16 **SEC. 7. RECALL OF LUNAR MATERIAL.**

17 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator may recall a
18 lunar sample contained in an award presented under this
19 Act if the Administrator determines that the particular
20 lunar sample is required for scientific purposes.

21 (b) PROMPT RETURN.—The Administrator shall
22 promptly return a lunar sample recalled under subsection
23 (a) to its owner when such sample is no longer required
24 for scientific purposes.

1 (c) REPLACEMENT.—The Administrator may replace
2 a lunar sample recalled under subsection (a) with a sub-
3 stantially equivalent lunar sample if the Administrator de-
4 termines that such recalled lunar sample will not be
5 promptly returned in its entirety and without substantial
6 degradation.

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